



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/982,315	10/17/2001	Horst Fischer	200116.403D1	6566

500 7590 09/01/2004

SEED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP PLLC
701 FIFTH AVE
SUITE 6300
SEATTLE, WA 98104-7092

EXAMINER

OWENS JR, HOWARD V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1623

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/982,315	FISCHER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Howard V Owens	1623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 58-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 58-67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/7/2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim Objections

Claim 65 appears to contain the grammatically incorrect term "increase", correction is required for this and any other grammatical or typographical errors not noted herein.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Statutory

35 U.S.C. § 101 reads as follows:

"Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefore, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title".

Claim 58 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 32 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,329,422. Claim 58 and claim 32 are identical in scope varying only through the use of the term "pharmaceutical" in the preamble of the instant claim; however, both claims recite a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, thus the patentable body of each claim contains the same components. This is a double patenting rejection.

Non-Statutory

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 59-63 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 32 of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,422 ('422). An obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but an examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claims(s) because the examined claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claims(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claim 32 of '422 is generic to all that is recited in claims 59-63. That is claims 59-63 fall entirely within the scope of claim 32.

Claims 59 - 63 are drawn to one or more flavones or isoflavones, wherein the species of flavones or isoflavones is set forth, i.e, genistein, quercetin, kaempferol, apigenin, etc. capable of stimulating chloride secretion; (b) one or more of: (i) a compound that increases expression of a CFTR in an epithelial cell; (ii) a chemical chaperone that increases trafficking of a CFTR to a plasma membrane in a plasma membrane in an epithelial cell.

Claim 32 of '422 is broadly drawn to a composition comprising one or more flavones or isoflavones, capable of stimulating chloride secretion; (b) one or more of: (i) a compound that increases expression of a CFTR in an epithelial cell; (ii) a chemical chaperone that increases trafficking of a CFTR to a plasma membrane in a plasma membrane in an epithelial cell. The flavones or isoflavones set forth in claims 59-63 are clearly species of the generic flavones/isoflavones set forth in claim 32 of '422, wherein they are anticipated as species of that genus and the motivation to use them in the composition is still retained as they are recognized as only those flavones/isoflavones capable of stimulating chloride secretion.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 58-63 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted elements are: the compounds that increase expression or trafficking of a CFTR.

The claim language is drawn to compounds/compositions and a method wherein the actual compound is not described by either structure, formula or nomenclature; the compounds are defined through the mode of action, function or effect desired to achieve

the method. The claim is missing the critical element of the particular identity or chemical core of the active agent to be used in the method. It is noted that the claim is limited to what the administration or use of "a compound" is intended to accomplish rather than what the active agent actually represents as a chemical identity; however, functional or operational language does not substitute for the actual structure or compound that completes the composition or method of use.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 64 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lyubenko et al., Abstract of RU 2,008,015, Derwent WPI Acc. No. 94-277493, February 28, 1994. Claim 64 is drawn to a composition comparing a polyphenolic compound and a compound selected from the group consisting of resveratrol, ascorbic acid, ascorbate salts and dehydrascorbic acid.

Lyubenko anticipates the claim wherein a polyphenolic compound and ascorbic acid or ascorbate is claimed as it teaches a polyphenolic in the form of quercetin in a composition with ascorbic acid.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 66 and 67 appear to contain subject matter allowable over the prior art cited supra because the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the method of

Art Unit: 1623

treating cystic fibrosis using the combination of the specific CFTR expression and trafficking agents in combination with flavones or isoflavones.

Howard V. Owens
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1623

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James O. Wilson', written over a horizontal line.

James O. Wilson
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Howard Owens whose telephone number is (571) 272-0658 . The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Supervisory Patent Examiner signing this action, James O. Wilson can be reached on (571) 272 - 0661.